CLAIMS

1. A method of determining the germination vigour and/or the storage capability of a seed batch, characterized in that it comprises quantifying, on a sample of seeds taken from said batch, the proteins recognized by anti-L-isoaspartyl methyltransferase antibodies directed against a region of said protein defined by the sequence (I): $RYVPLTSRX_1X_2QLX_3$ (SEQ ID NO: 1), in which X_1 represents E, V or S, X_2 represents A or E, and X_3 represents R, G or Q.

2. The method as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that the quantification of the L-isoaspartyl methyltransferase is carried out using an anti-L-isoaspartyl methyltransferase antibody chosen from:
   - an anti-L-isoaspartyl methyltransferase antibody directed against a region of said protein defined by the sequence (I);
   - an anti-L-isoaspartyl methyltransferase antibody directed against a region of said protein defined by the sequence (II): $QX_4LX_5VX_6DKX_7X_8DGSX_9X_{10}X_{11}$ (SEQ ID NO: 2), in which X_4 represents D or E, X_5 represents Q or K, X_6 represents V or I, X_7 represents N or S, X_8 represents S, E or A, X_9 represents either a dipeptide chosen from IS, VS, VT and TS, or a peptide bond, X_{10} represents I or V, and X_{11} represents K, Q or R.

3. The method as claimed in claim 2, characterized in that use is made of an anti-L-isoaspartyl methyltransferase antibody chosen from:
   - an antibody directed against a peptide of sequence QDLQVVDKNSDGSVSIK (SEQ ID NO: 3);

- an antibody directed against a peptide of sequence RYVPLTSREAQLR (SEQ ID NO: 5).

4. The anti-L-isoaspartyl methyltransferase antibody as defined in either of claims 2 and 3.

5. A method of quantifying the L-isoaspartyl methyltransferase in plant material, characterized in that it comprises bringing said material into contact with an anti-L-isoaspartyl methyltransferase antibody as claimed in claim 4.

6. The use of an anti-L-isoaspartyl methyltransferase antibody as claimed in claim 4, for determining the germination vigour and/or the storage capability of a seed batch.